# Article information:

Loneliness in U.S. military veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic: A nationally representative, prospective cohort study - PMC  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9126310/>

# Article summary:

1. The prevalence of loneliness in U.S. military veterans decreased slightly from before the COVID-19 pandemic to one year into the pandemic, with 5.4% reporting increased loneliness, 6.4% reporting decreased loneliness, and 10.6% reporting persistent loneliness during the pandemic.

2. Factors such as not being married/partnered, lower levels of purpose in life and cognitive functioning pre-pandemic, pre-existing psychiatric disorders, unpartnered marital status, and pandemic-related stressors were associated with increased or persistent loneliness in veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. Interventions that promote social connectedness and target risk factors such as psychiatric conditions and social stressors may help mitigate loneliness in U.S. military veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article "Loneliness in U.S. military veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic: A nationally representative, prospective cohort study" provides valuable insights into the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on loneliness among U.S. veterans. The study analyzes data from a nationally representative sample of veterans before and one year into the pandemic, aiming to identify risk and protective factors associated with changes in loneliness.

One potential bias in the article is the focus on loneliness as a primary outcome measure without considering other mental health outcomes that may be affected by the pandemic. While loneliness is an important factor to consider, it would have been beneficial to also explore how factors such as depression, anxiety, and PTSD have been impacted by the pandemic among veterans.

Additionally, the article may have a bias towards highlighting protective factors that mitigate loneliness in veterans, potentially overlooking other important risk factors that contribute to increased loneliness during the pandemic. It is crucial to consider a comprehensive range of both risk and protective factors to provide a holistic understanding of the issue.

The article also lacks exploration of potential counterarguments or alternative perspectives on the impact of the pandemic on loneliness among veterans. Including diverse viewpoints and considering different interpretations of the data could strengthen the overall analysis.

Furthermore, there is limited discussion on potential limitations of the study methodology or biases that may have influenced the results. Addressing these limitations would enhance the credibility and reliability of the findings presented.

Overall, while the article provides valuable insights into loneliness among U.S. veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic, there are areas where further exploration and consideration could improve the depth and balance of the analysis. By addressing potential biases, exploring alternative perspectives, and acknowledging limitations, future research can provide a more comprehensive understanding of this important issue affecting veterans' mental health.

# Topics for further research:

* Impact of COVID-19 on mental health outcomes in U.S. veterans
* Depression
* anxiety
* and PTSD in veterans during the pandemic
* Risk factors for increased loneliness in veterans during COVID-19
* Alternative perspectives on loneliness among U.S. veterans in the pandemic
* Limitations of studying loneliness in veterans during COVID-19
* Comprehensive analysis of mental health challenges faced by veterans during the pandemic

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/880aad386306183d37127764e11d7e27>